

HABS
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Eitzen Building
200 Jefferson Street
Washington
Franklin County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1402

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

EITZEN BUILDING

HABS No. MO-1402

Location: 200 Jefferson Street, Washington, Franklin County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photograph was taken:

Built ca. 1857 by Henry Charles Eitzen.

Eitzen was born in Bremen, Germany, in 1827. His older brother, Charles (born Bremen, Germany, August 20, 1819) emigrated to Hermann, Missouri in 1839 where he became a successful merchant. Henry followed him to the States during the 1840s and about 1851 opened a store in Washington, Missouri. Sometime later he built this structure, using the first floor for his general store, and the floor and attic above for his residence. He sold his business in September 1877 and lived in Kansas City, St. Louis, and Columbia, Missouri, where he died in September 1910.

This two and one-half brick story building with molded brick used for the string courses [sic]. The triangular panels in the front gable end are ornamented with an applied design of jigsaw work and apparently the center circle was either similarly treated, as reported in the Gregory article quoted below, or, as may have been possible, a window. The building was originally heated by stoves. The street grade has been lowered several feet since the building was constructed, and originally a porch extended over the sidewalk.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Ralph Gregory, "Old Eitzen Building Built in 1850s was a Store for Many Years," The Washington Missourian, February 27, 1964.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp, HABS historian. A master list is available in the ~~MO-1402~~ records for MO-1800.

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